(d) In all cases of formal approvals, either the land was in possession of the State Industrial Development Corporation or with the promoters and there is no fresh acquisition of land. However, as per available information, over 2000 acres land is beng acquired under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894, for the SEZ approved in-principle to be developed by M/s. Mahindra World City and the farmers are being given 25% developed land in lieu of cash compensation.

(e) The fiscal concessions as provided in the SEZs Act, 2005 and the SEZ Rules, 2006 are available to all SEZs set up in the country. The quantum of exemptions and incentives is dependent on the investments and export profits and cannot be estimated at this stage.

NHRC notice regarding displacement of people due to SEZs

2420. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a notice from the National Human Rights Commission with regard to displacement of millions of people due to Special Economic Zones;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) what steps would be taken to try to find an amicable and reasonable solution to the issues raised through the NHRC;

(d) whether Government would go to the root of the problem and try to ensure that the contentions/issues related to SEZs are removed and conditions changed; and

(e) steps proposed to avoid confrontation with displaced victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A notice has been received from National Human Rights Commission on a petition filed by Shri Pentapati Pullaro of Andhra Pradesh on the issue of displacement of farmers due to land acquisition for various purposes including Special Economic Zones (SEZs). However, specific reference has been made in this regard to the Tata's project at Singur in

West Bengal and Polavaram Irrigation Dam in Andhra Pradesh which are not SEZs.

(c) to (e) Land is a State subject and each State has its own compensation and relief and rehabilitation measures depending upon the requirements and necessities of respective States and these are applicable for acquisition of land for SEZs also. The SEZ Board of Approval considers only those proposals, which are duly recommended by the concerned State Government. The Ministry of Rural Development is currently formulating a revised National Rehabilitation Policy, 2007 and as and when the new policy is implemented, it will apply to acquisition of land for industrial project including SEZs. Various issues relating to SEZs including land acquisition have also been placed before the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM).

FDI in retail in SEZs

2421. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allow 75 per cent FDI in retain in SEZs;

(b) the details of the new policy to use the SEZs to allow giant MNC retail firms into the country, with no limits on percentage of FDI;

(c) what are the gains in using SEZs to allow all kinds of business into the country; and

(d) the steps proposed to review the SEZ policy in small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Setting up of SEZs is expected to bring overall development. The main objectives of SEZ Act, 2005 are generation of additional economic activity, promotion of exports of goods and services, attracting investment from foreign and domestic sources, generation of employment opportunities and development of infrastructure facilities.